



Puerto Rico

2008 - 2009

Meeting community needs in Puerto Rico. More than **3,300** people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through **52** national service projects across Puerto Rico. Serving with national and local nonprofits, schools, faith-based organizations and other groups, these citizens tutor and mentor children, coordinate after-school programs, build homes, conduct neighborhood patrols, restore the environment, respond to disasters, build nonprofit capacity and recruit and manage volunteers. This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service will commit more than **\$8,800,000** to support Puerto Rico communities through three national service initiatives:



Senior Corps: More than **2,200** seniors in Puerto Rico contribute their time and talents in one of three Senior Corps programs. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to more than **7,600** young people who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than **2,600** homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes. RSVP volunteers conduct safety patrols for local police departments, protect the environment, tutor and mentor youth, respond to natural disasters, and provide other services through more than **130** groups across Puerto Rico.



AmeriCorps: This year AmeriCorps will provide more than **300** individuals the opportunity to provide intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, public safety and other pressing needs in communities across Puerto Rico. Roughly three-quarters of all AmeriCorps grant funding goes to the Governor-appointed, which in turn awards grants to nonprofit groups to respond to local needs. Most of the remainder of the grant funding is distributed by the Corporation directly to multi-state and national organizations through a competitive grants process. Other individuals will serve through AmeriCorps*VISTA, whose members help bring individuals and communities out of poverty by serving full-time to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses and increase housing opportunities, and AmeriCorps*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a 10-month, full time residential program for men and women between the ages of 18 and 24. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award of up to \$4,725 that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Since 1994, more than **2,700** Puerto Rico residents have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than **\$11,600,000**.



Learn and Serve America: Learn and Serve America provides grants to schools, colleges, and nonprofit groups to engage more than **820** Puerto Rico students in community service linked to academic achievement and the development of civic skills. This type of learning, called service-learning, improves communities while preparing young people for a lifetime of responsible citizenship. Learn and Serve America also provides curricula and other resources to teachers, faculty members, schools, and community groups.

The Corporation for National and Community Service improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. Each year the Corporation engages more than four million Americans in service to meet local needs through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America. To learn visit www.NationalService.gov or call 202-606-5000 or TTY 202-565-2799.